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March 2023

### A Visit to Benedictine College

Caryn Mirriam-Goldberg

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#### Recommended Citation

Mirriam-Goldberg, Caryn, "A Visit to Benedictine College" (2023). *Book Promotions*. 1.  
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**A Visit to Benedictine College:** We talked about how such a visit could include a reading, a writing workshop with both creative writing sections, and a meeting with students (informally or as part of workshop, time-permitting) to talk about making a living as writers and other post-college possibilities. I direct the Transformative Language Arts master's program at Goddard College, which educates people on using writing, storytelling, and other forms of the written and spoken words for a community livelihood (more here: <https://www.goddard.edu/academics/goddard-graduate-institute/transformative-language-arts-concentration/>). The writing workshop could be focused a number of ways, but given the range of genres covered, perhaps it would be good to focus on process, inventing inspiration, creating strong writing prompts to generate poetry and creative non-fiction, and related topics. I often include short prompts for people to write together (usually just 10-15 minutes each), then time to discuss what we can discover in such writing with a focus on how to get and keep going as writers.

**Timing:** I have a lot of availability in September except for Sept. 9-11 and 18-20. I'm also available in November for many dates at this point. So you could let me know what time period best serves your students.

**Poetry:** My most recent collections are the award-winning *Chasing Weather: Tornadoes, Tempests, and Thunderous Skies in Word and Image* with photographer Stephen Locke (Ice Cube Press, <http://www.carynmirriamgoldberg.com/books/poetry/chasing-weather/>), *Following the Curve* (Spartan Press <http://www.carynmirriamgoldberg.com/books/poetry/following-the-curve/>) and *Landed* (Woodley Press <http://www.carynmirriamgoldberg.com/books/poetry/landed-2/>).

**Memoir and Other Creative Non-Fiction:** My work includes:

- *Everyday Magic: Fieldnotes on the Mundane and Miraculous* (Meadowlark Press <http://www.carynmirriamgoldberg.com/books/memoir-fiction/everyday-magic/>),
- *Needle in the Bone: How a Holocaust Survivor and Polish Resistance Fighter Beat the Odds and Found Each Other* (University of Nebraska Press <http://www.carynmirriamgoldberg.com/books/memoir-fiction/needle-in-the-bone/>),
- *The Sky Begins At Your Feet: A Memoir on Cancer, Community, and Coming Home to the Body* (Ice Cube Press <http://www.carynmirriamgoldberg.com/books/memoir-fiction/the-sky-begins-at-your-feet/>),
- *Poem on the Range: A Poet Laureate's Love Song to Kansas* (Coal City Press <http://www.carynmirriamgoldberg.com/books/memoir-fiction/poem-on-the-range/>)

Between all of these books, I delve into short essays and blog posts (*Everyday Magic*), blending history and oral histories (*Needle in the Bone*), travel writing (*Poem on the Range*), and straight-up memoir (*The Sky Begins at Your Feet*).

**More Information:** <http://carynmirriamgoldberg.com>, and more about me at <http://www.carynmirriamgoldberg.com/about/>.

**Stipend:** I suggest a fee of \$600 for a reading, workshop, and if it fits in, informal time to meet with students too. This would include all travel expenses.